

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The same mask pattern is used as an etching mask in defining the horizontal location of micro-machined (etched) features at the substrate surface of an optical device relative to the waveguide cores also at the substrate surface of the optical device. Exemplary micro-machined features include grooves, recesses and inclined surfaces formed in the substrate surface for any of a variety of purposes. The accurate horizontal positioning of these features relative to the integrated waveguide cores fosters accurate optical coupling between the integrated waveguide cores and external and/or internal components.

TOP SECRET//COMINT